

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/733,111

Examiner

Tri V. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

PYLES ET AL.

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/19/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17, 23, 25-27 (renumbered 1-21).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Tri V. Nguyen
TRIV. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant Representative Aron Preis on August 30, 2006.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

2.1 In Claim 1:

- a. In line 4, --thermoplastic-- has been added before "article";
- b. In line 7, "plastic" has been replaced with --thermoplastic--;
- c. In line 19, "plastic" has been replaced with --thermoplastic--;
- d. In line 20, "plastic" has been replaced with --thermoplastic-- and "and" has been deleted.
- e. Line 21 has been replaced with the following:
 - (d) removing said dyed thermoplastic article from said bath; and
 - (e) (i) contacting said dye bath with particulate activated carbon to form a mixture of said dye bath and particulate activated carbon;
 - (ii) isolating from said mixture a dye-free liquid comprising water, said carrier and said diol; and
 - (iii) optionally adding at least one dye to said dye-free liquid, thereby forming a further dye bath.--

2.2 In Claim 2, first line, "plastic" has been replaced with --thermoplastic--.

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2.3 In Claim 16, first line, "plastic" has been replaced with --thermoplastic--.

2.4 Claim 24 has been cancelled.

2.5 In Claim 27:

- a. In line 2, "plastic" has been replaced with --thermoplastic--;
- b. In line 3, "(iii)" has been deleted;
- c. In line 4, "(iv)" has been deleted.

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claim 1 is now allowable due to the incorporation of the limitations of the dependent claim 24, which has been indicated allowable in the office action dated March 17, 2006. None of the prior art of record teaches, discloses or suggests a method of dyeing a thermoplastic article in the manner as those recited in particular the step (e) of the present claims.

The terminal disclaimer filed on August 8, 2005 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of US Patent 6,733,543 B2 and co-pending application 10/733,657 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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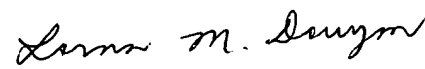
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tri V. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6965. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas McGinty can be reached on (571) 272-1029. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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LORNA M. DOUYON
PRIMARY EXAMINER